

## Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4408

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: US LEADERSHIP IN ALLIANCE CONSULTATIONS: MEETINGS OF  
NATO REGIONAL EXPERT GROUPS

REF: A) USNATO 4370

B) STATE 167410

C) STATE 177609 (NOTAL)

D) USNATO 3930 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE DISCUSSES THE AUTUMN 1975 SCHEDULE FOR NATO  
REGIONAL EXPERTS MEETING, AND SUGGEST STEPS WHICH MIGHT BE TAKEN  
TO CORRINATE THE DEPARTMENT'S NEW REGIONAL EXPERTS ACTION PROGRAM  
WITH MISSION'S HANDLING OF THOSE IMPORTANT NATO CONSULTATIONS.  
END SUMMARY.

1. SCHEDULE OF REGIONAL EXPERTS MEETINGS - REF D REPORTED PROPOSED  
SCHEDULE FOR AUTUMN 1975 MEETINGS OF NATO REGIONAL EXPERT GROUPS.  
REF C AUTHORIZED US ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE. THESE  
DATES WERE DISCUSSED IN RECENT POLADS MEETINGS AND ADOPTED UNDER  
THE SILENCE PROCEDURE ON AUGUST 12, WITH ONE CHANGE: THE EXPERT  
WORKING GROUP ON AFRICA WILL MEET OCTOBER 8 - 10 VICE 8 - 11. THE  
CANADIAN NATO DELEGATION, HOWEVER, HAS REOPENED THE SCHEDULE  
QUESTION BY INDICATING THAT WHILE OTTAWA HAS NO DIFFICULTIES  
WITH DATES FOR THE OTHER FOUR WORKING GROUPS, CANADA IS UN-  
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ABLE TO CONCUR WITH THE PROPOSED DATES FOR THE  
MEETING OF AFRICAN EXPERTS. WE WILL REPORT WHEN SCHEDULE  
IS FINALLY AGREED.

2. IN OUR RECENT MESSAGE COVERING PROPOSALS FOR NAC CONSULTATIONS DURING THE NEXT 6 MONTHS (REF A), WE RECOMMENDED THAT THE UNITED STATES SUGGEST A REINFORCED NAC SESSION IN LATE NOVEMBER, WITH MIDEAST POLICY LEVEL OFFICERS FROM CAPITALS ATTENDING, TO CONSIDER THE AUTUMN REPORT OF THE MIDDLE EAST EXPERTS ALONG WITH THE AUTUMN REPORT OF THE MEDITERRANEAN DRAFTING GROUP. THIS TIMING WOULD ALLOW AMPLE OPPORTUNITY FOR PREPARATION OF THE MIDDLE EAST EXPERTS REPORT, BUT WE MAY HAVE TO TRY TO ADVANCE THE PRESENTLY SCHEDULED NOV 4-7 MEETING OF THE AD HOC MEDITERRANEAN DRAFTING GROUP SO THAT BOTH REPORTS COULD BE READY FOR THE REINFORCED NAC CONSULTATIONS. SINCE US IS REPRESENTED ON MEDITERRANEAN DRAFTING GROUP BY MISSION OFFICER RATHER THAN AN EXPERT FROM WASHINGTON, SCHEDULE CHANGE WOULD NOT SEEM TO BE A WASHINGTON CONCERN, EXCEPT THAT RESCHEDULING MEDITERRANEAN DRAFTING GROUP MAY REQUIRE READJUSTMENTS IN THE AGREED OVERALL EXPERT WORKING GROUP SCHEDULE.

3. COORDINATING PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE EXPERT CONSULTATIONS: WE WELCOME INTENTION TO IMPLEMENT SUGGESTION OF ESTABLISHING A DEPARTMENTAL EXPERT WORKING GROUP FOR EACH REGION (PARA 7, REF B). IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM BENEFIT, AS DESCRIBED BELOW, FROM THIS NEW PROCEDURE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING DETAILS OF HOW THESE DEPARTMENTAL INTERNAL WORKING GROUPS WILL OPERATE, INCLUDING DATES OF THEIR SCHEDULED MEETINGS. WE ARE TRANSMITTING BY SEPTELS SUGGESTED NATO/IS OUTLINES FOR THE AUTUMN EXPERTS REPORTS. WE ASSUME ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON OF THESE OUTLINES WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY EARLY FIRST MEETINGS WITH CORRESPONDING INTERNAL EXPERT WORKING GROUPS. WHEN THESE GROUPS HAVE MET, SELECTED THE EXPERTS TO ATTEND THE FALL MEETINGS, OUTLINED THE WRITTEN US CONTRIBUTIONS, AND CLOSELY IDENTIFIED THE KEY ISSUES UPON WHICH THE US SHOULD SEEK TO CONCENTRATE ALLIED ATTENTION, WE WOULD HOPE TO RECEIVE A REPORT OF ALL THESE DECISIONS AND RESULTS SO THAT WE COULD BEGIN COORDINATING WITH ALLIED DELEGATIONS IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

A) FOREWARN AND COORDINATE WITH KEY ALLIES ON THOSE POINTS WHICH WE WISH TO EMPHASIZE,  
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B) ACCOMPLISH WHATEVER OTHER ADVANCE OR "CORRIDOR" WORK SEEMS CALLED FOR,

C) ORGANIZE THE BILATERAL OR OTHER SMALL GROUP MEETINGS THE VISITING EXPERTS MIGHT REQUEST,

D) ORGANIZE SOCIAL AND REPRESENTATIONAL ACTIVITIES WHICH WILL FACILITATE THE EFFORTS OF DEPARTMENT'S EXPERTS AND HELP TOWARD THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE ABOVE OBJECTIVES.

4. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS AND GUIDANCE.  
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